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The Style and Literary Method of Luke.

I. The Diction of Luke and Acts. By Henry J. Cadbury. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1919. Pp. 72. \$1.25.

This pamphlet is an incisive criticism of the oft-repeated assumption that the author of Luke-Acts employed a distinctly medical terminology. Professor Cadbury demonstrates very clearly that Luke's style shows no more evidence of medical training and interest than does the language of Lucian or other writers of the same period, who are definitely known not to have been physicians.

The World-View of the Fourth Gospel: A Genetic Study. By Thomas Wearing. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1918. Pp. 74. \$0.79.

Recognizing the fundamental importance of one's world-view for the interpretation of one's religion, Mr. Wearing studies the distinctive world-view of the author of the Fourth Gospel as an aid to the understanding of this New Testament book. The point of approach is historical and genetic. A survey of pre-Christian Hellenistic thinking furnishes the setting for a more specific examination of Johannine thinking. The main body of the essay is an exposition of the origin, structure, and destiny of the Johannine universe, and man's place therein. This is followed by a brief comparison of the world-view of the Fourth Gospel with that of other New Testament writings.

The Religion of Israel. By George A. Barton. New York: Macmillan, 1918. Pp. 283. \$2.00.

The "Religious Science and Literature Series" distinguishes itself in the publication of *The Religion of Israel* by Professor Barton, a veteran author in the field of Semitic studies. Dr. Barton's objective was to provide an attractive, authoritative, and readable manual for college undergraduates, and incidentally to furnish a handy compendium of the religion of Israel for semipopular consumption. He attains all objectives and makes the reading public his debtor. With due consideration for his particular group of readers he does not fill his text with citations of authorities and views of scholars but gives his own estimates of questions, taking in most cases a safe middle ground. The footnotes have sufficient material to send the critical reader on quests for "more light," and the small group of "Topics for Further Study" at the close of each chapter supplement abundantly the material of the text proper.

This method has its limitations, however, in that some vital questions are too much open

to allow of positive statements. One notices this in the assumption of Budde's Kenite hypothesis to account for the origin of the religion of Israel, and the conclusion that the growth of the ethical element was made possible by the fact that Yahweh was related to his worshippers not by kinship but by *contract*. But when he skates on thin ice, as in the assuming of Sennacherib's second invasion of Judah, he deftly points out the opinionative nature of the hypothesis.

The first part of the book constitutes a brief review of the religion of Israel in outline, from the discussion of its possible origin to its crystallization in the legalism of Judaism. The opening chapter, "The Semitic Background," apparently a brief summary of the author's *Sketch of Semitic Origins*, is a particularly good introduction to the atmosphere from which Israel's religion emerged. The latter part of the book is composed of chapters on special features of the religion which call for supplemental treatment, as "Angels and Demons," "The Jewish Dispersion," etc. Among these chapters one stands out as particularly good, "The Hopes of the Apocalyptists." This is as informing résumé of apocalypticism in Israel, its rise, aim, and spirit. His selection of the Books of Enoch and Daniel for special description contributes to a good understanding of the subject for those not familiar with this "false view of God's relation to the world."

The Little Child in the Sunday School. By Clara B. Guild and Lillian T. Poor. Boston: Beacon Press, 1918. Pp. 229. Teacher's manual, \$0.85; pupils' leaflets, \$0.75.

This is another volume in the same series as the foregoing, intended for beginners in the Sunday school, children under six years of age. The teacher's manual contains some very attractive songs and forty very short stories suitable for the kindergarten. Only a very few of these are based upon the Bible; many of them are taken from nature, and others from classical and modern literature. The book assumes that teachers in this department know how to handle a service, and therefore the space devoted to the pedagogical handling of the whole hour is very small. As a matter of fact the majority of beginners' departments are in the hands of young, inexperienced girls who need a great deal of instruction in carrying out a program, instruction which will enable them to see the real philosophy of the thing which they are doing and gradually train them to develop programs of their own. For the teacher who already has this training the book is amply sufficient and presents a good collection of stories. A very simple but interesting little leaflet, involving some handwork, is provided for the children.